

# KENILWORTH LIFE

Published by Renna Media, LLC

Issue #94 • November 2015

## VETERAN'S DAY

**NOV. 11**

**VFW POST 2230 WILL  
ONCE AGAIN HOST A  
CEREMONY HONORING  
ALL OF  
OUR VETERANS AT  
THE VFW**

**S. 21st St.  
at 11 a.m.**

**Refreshments will  
be served after the  
ceremony. Please join  
us and say thank you to  
all of our veterans who  
have served our  
country.**

## THE BOROUGH HALL REHABILITATION PROJECT

The Borough Hall rehabilitation project included the repairing of water damage to the building's portico and entry, as well as several rooms including the police, borough clerk, and tax collector's office. The offices also received a new paint job. The work was funded in part by a Union County Infrastructure Grant. Borough Clerk Laura Reinertsen is credited with acting as the general contractor who picked all the colors and coordinated the painters for each department, which was quite an ordeal.

*(right) Borough Clerk Laura Reinertsen putting the "K" in Kenilworth back on Borough Hall.*

Photo by Kathleen Moschitta,  
Deputy Borough Clerk Borough of Kenilworth



## 12TH ANNUAL TASTE OF KENILWORTH

The 12th Annual Taste of Kenilworth drew hungry visitors to savor the culinary offerings of several fine eateries from Kenilworth and neighboring municipalities.

Visitors were teased by an array of aromas – from garlic to curry to chocolate – and rewarded with more than just a “taste” of Kenilworth.

Local residents have long known Kenilworth as Union County's dining jewel, as the community is home to many fine restaurants and cultural eateries. Once annually a number of these establishments unite to feature the culinary cuisines of their kitchens in one gathering of hungry diners.

Proceeds from the Taste of Kenilworth benefit Kenilworth students through the Kenilworth Chamber of Commerce Scholarships.

The 2015 Taste of Kenilworth was presented by the Kenilworth Chamber of Commerce and was hosted by Merck & Co. The Taste of Kenilworth represents the continued commitment of the Kenilworth Chamber of Commerce to bring together its business and residential communities for the enrichment of both.



*(above) Kenilworth Chamber President Kamal Assad (left) presents the grand prize donated by The Kenilworth.*

*More photos on pages 10, 11 and 12. Photos from this and other events can be found online at [www.rennamedia.com](http://www.rennamedia.com) and on the Kenilworth Business Life page on [facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com/KenilworthBusinessLife)  
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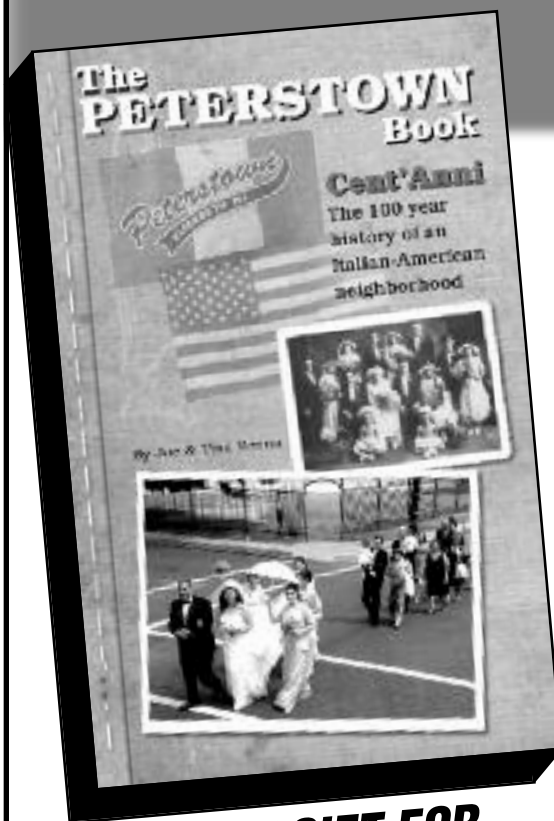
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## KENILWORTH VFW LOOKING FOR VIETNAM ERA WAR VETERANS

Robert Jeans, commander of Kenilworth VFW Post 2230, has announced that the Post is seeking the whereabouts of any current or former Kenilworth resident who saw military service during the period of the Vietnam War, whether in Vietnam or not.

“Officially speaking,” stated Commander Jeans, “the US Department of Veterans Affairs uses the time frame of service beginning February 28, 1961 to May 7, 1975. Our members have been busy for a number of months trying to compile such a list of local servicemen and women. We are searching for anyone who served our country during that period whether in

Vietnam, Southeast Asia, or any other place in the world. We just want to find ‘our boys and our girls’ who served our great nation during that time period whether in combat or not.”

Jeans added, “We are looking for as much of the following data as possible for each person. But any leads would be appreciated. That desired information includes: (1) name, (2) branch of service, (3) unit, (4) rank, (5) the years served – from when to when, (6) where stationed, (7) Kenilworth address, (8) where living now or if deceased, (9) current contact information, (10) and a photograph – preferably in uniform.” The commander added, “Photographs will be returned

if requested.”

Jeans concluded, “This information may be sent in by the veteran, a family member, or a friend. We are trying to make sure that these patriotic citizens are remembered for their courage and loyalty to America. They each deserve this recognition.”

Information may be sent by regular mail to:  
Kenilworth VFW Post 2230,  
33 S. 21st St., Kenilworth NJ 07033.

It also may be emailed to:  
irishman1028@verizon.net.

Persons with inquiries may send them to the addresses indicated or by phoning 908-578-3919.

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2 & Under.....FREE!

**Dinner 3:30pm - 10:00pm**

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Kids 7-10.....\$6.99  
Kids 3-6.....\$5.99  
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**FRIDAY - SATURDAY**

**Lunch 11am - 3:30pm**

Adult .....\$7.99  
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Kids 3-6.....\$3.99  
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**Dinner 3:30pm - 10:30pm**

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## WINTER WONDERLAND DECEMBER 6TH

A Winter Wonderland event will be held at the VFW on Sunday, December 6th.

Festivities will begin at 2 pm.

There will be free entertainment including, carriage rides, a petting zoo, musician, balloon artist, holiday crafts for children to make and cookies to decorate.

There will be food trucks on premises to purchase food.

The Kenilworth Historical Society will host

### SANTA CLAUS AT THE NITSCHKE HOUSE

along with a Christmas tree decorated with handmade ornaments.

everyone is invited to walk

to Borough Hall, or meet up there, for the

### TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY AROUND 6 PM

Kenilworth Fire Rescue Captain Howarth and Firefighter Krill recently participated in the 9-11 Memorial Stair Climb. The event provides assistance to the surviving families and co-workers of the 343 firefighters who made the ultimate sacrifice on September 11, 2001.

Each participant pays tribute to a FDNY firefighter by climbing or walking the equivalent of the 110 stories of the World Trade Center. The tribute not only remembers the sacrifice of a FDNY brother, but symbolically completes their heroic journey to save others. Through firefighter and community participation each of the 343 firefighters is honored, and the world knows that they will never be forgotten. The proceeds of these events help the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation create and maintain programs that support fire service survivors.

(right l-r) Captain Howarth and Firefighter Krill. Photo by Kenilworth Fire Rescue.



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## PARK DEDICATED TO THE LIFE OF CHARLES VITALE, "MR. KENILWORTH"

The Borough of Kenilworth honored the life of Charles E. Vitale, Jr. "Mr. Kenilworth". Mayor Fred Pugliese read a proclamation dedicating the park on Lincoln Drive in his memory on October 28, 2015 during a Council Meeting.

Charles E. Vitale, Jr. "Mr. Kenilworth" was born and raised in Kenilworth before passing on January 25, 2006 at the age of 84. He ran the "Variety Shop" on the Boulevard, was an arbitrator with the American Arbitration Association, officer of the Kenilworth Lions Club, Businessmen's Association, Charter member of the Rotary Club, Director of the Washington Rock Girl Scouts Council, driving force in the Kenilworth Senior Citizens Club and held many varied seats in Borough and County government. The former is just the tip of the iceberg for this civic minded family man.

Charlie was married to the love of his life, Charlotte, for almost 60 years. They raised their five children in Kenilworth; Antoinette, Thomas, Nancy, Peter and Joseph. In an article published in the Cranford Chronicle, July 20, 1989, Charlie is quoted as saying "My lifestyle is that I must be involved. I simply can not sit down and do nothing."

The full proclamation:

WHEREAS, Charles E. Vitale, Jr. a lifelong resident of Kenilworth, affectionately referred to as "Mr. Kenilworth" for his vast knowledge of the town's history, government, educational and business/industrial components, loved Kenilworth and expressed his devotion through the many civic, social and charitable organizations with which he was involved throughout the past 60 years; and

WHEREAS, Charlie's civic involvement

began as a founding charter member of the Kenilworth Rotary Club in the 1940's and continued into the 1950s and 1960's with his involvement in the Kenilworth Historical Society and the Kenilworth Lions Club, as President of the Kenilworth Businessmen's Association in the late 1950's, Charlie started an annual holiday tradition of flying Santa into the Borough by helicopter. He was a member of the Kenilworth Board of Adjustment and served as Kenilworth's representative to the State Cross Acceptance Planning Commission. Charlie remained an active member of the Kenilworth Planning Board until his passing; and

WHEREAS, in 1971, he was elected to the Union County Board of Education as Kenilworth's Representative and served on the Board for thirteen years – nine continuous years of which he served as Board President. When he retired from the Board in 1984, he was honored by having the David Brearley Media Center named after him, and a scholarship in his name funded by the Brearley Bears Booster Club; and

WHEREAS, in 1987, with the assistance of other members of the community and the Kenilworth Police Department, Charlie established a local Youth Services Chapter to help troubled kids. From organizing lectures, cruises, trips to the Meadowlands or Manhattan and every type of activity in between, he gave tirelessly of his time to help Kenilworth youths at risk. He also served on the Board of Directors of the Washington Rock Girl Scout Council and devoted much of his time to that organization.

WHEREAS, Charlie was devoted to the Seniors of Kenilworth and was actively involved in the Kenilworth Senior Citizen Club. He served

two terms as Club president from 1987 to 1989. Although there was a two-term limit under Club rules, the members elected Charlie to a third term in 1992. As President, he was instrumental in bringing a federally funded nutrition program to the Seniors Club – where anyone over 60 could receive a full meal at the Senior Center; and

WHEREAS, among his many other accomplishments, Charlie was a successful businessman and ran his own construction company until he retired in the early 1970s. He remained involved in the industry as a professional arbitrator with the American Arbitration Association's commercial panel, mediating and arbitrating complex construction disputes. In 1993 he was honored as Citizen of the Year by the Greater Eastern Union County Board of Realtors.

WHEREAS, Charlie met Charlotte Allen while ice skating at Jackson's Pond in Kenilworth; in 1946 they married. Their five children, Antoinette, Thomas, Nancy, Peter and Joseph were all raised in the Borough. A loving and dedicated husband, father, grandfather and great grandfather; of all his accomplishments, most important to him and closest to his heart was his family. He loved them dearly and devoted his life to them.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that on this 28th day of October, 2015, in recognition of his service and devotion to his community and family, on behalf of the Council and the residents of this great community, I proclaim the little neighborhood park between Lincoln Drive and Roosevelt Lane, the new Charles E. Vitale, Jr. Park, as it shall be known from this date forward.



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## "TASTE OF KENILWORTH" 2015 SERVES UP CULINARY DELIGHTS

An eclectic combination of sumptuous ingredients draws record crowd. The 12th Annual Taste of Kenilworth drew over 200 hungry visitors to savor the culinary offerings of several fine eateries from Kenilworth and neighboring municipalities.

Visitors were teased by an array of aromas - from garlic to curry to chocolate - and rewarded with more than just a "taste" of Kenilworth. Local

residents have long known Kenilworth as Union County's dining jewel, as the community is home to many fine restaurants and cultural eateries. Once annually a number of these establishments unite to feature the culinary cuisines of their kitchens in one gathering of hungry diners.

Proceeds from the Taste of Kenilworth benefit Kenilworth students through the Kenilworth Chamber of Commerce Scholarship Prize. The

event was hosted by Merck & Co. and featured a live D.J. and a raffle fundraiser. The 2015 Taste of Kenilworth was presented by the Kenilworth Chamber of Commerce and Merck & Co.

The Taste of Kenilworth represents the continued commitment of the Kenilworth Chamber of Commerce to bring together its business and residential communities for the enrichment of both.



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*DJ Charlie "O"*

**Photos from this and other events can be found online at [www.renamedia.com](http://www.renamedia.com) and on the Kenilworth Business Life page on [facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com). Feel free to "Like", "Tag" and "Share"**

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Entrance right side door of building (front)

## ST. THERESA'S SEEKING THANKSGIVING FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS

St. Theresa's Social Concerns Food Pantry is gearing up for their Thanksgiving food basket distribution. Last year they distributed 250 baskets including a \$10 supermarket gift card, and 280 turkeys. They anticipate a bigger need than any year before. Nonperishable food items can be dropped off at the back of the Church on Sundays or any day of the week between 9 am to 3 pm at the Rectory. There is a special need for gravy, stuffing, cranberry sauce and canned yams.

Frozen turkeys can be dropped off the Friday before Thanksgiving (November 20th) between 9am - 5 pm at St. Theresa's Rectory.

Baskets will be distributed the Saturday before Thanksgiving (November 21st). If you need a basket call the Rectory to reserve one at (908) 272-4444. Only first names are required. There will be no baskets given out without a reservation.

Gift cards to any supermarket in \$10.00 denominations are also needed. Gift cards and checks payable to St. Theresa's can be mailed to Social Concerns c/o The Church of Saint Theresa, 541 Washington Avenue, Kenilworth, NJ 07033.

## GIVING TREE

With Thanksgiving behind them, Social Concerns will then be collecting donations for a "giving tree" which will be located in St. Theresa's church starting November 21st. The tree is decorated with tags with needed items written on them. Donors simply take as many tags as they wish and return the items to the church for distribution.

The orders on the tags were collected from needy families within the community as well as Covenant House, Catholic Charities and St. Joseph's Social Service Center located in Elizabeth. If you are in need please call the Rectory (908) 272-4444.

## MAKING THE RIGHT CHOICE

Sr. Helene Godin, principal from St. Theresa School in Kenilworth, presented students from Pre-K to 8th grade The Principal

Award. September's student of the month acknowledges the children for always making the right choices in their daily lives.



(above l-r) Front: Rhayane Koblinger, Juliana Brito, Angelo D'Andrea, Faith Forenza, Lauralee Santos- Pristas (back, l-r) Armand Benegas, Joseph Grimaldi, Sr. Helene, Isabella Fuentes, Ifeanyi Ononiwu and Luke Zawacki

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## KACHINA DOLLS

Mrs. Morgese's, 5th grade social studies class, at St. Theresa's School in Kenilworth learned about The Hopi Indians and their spiritual Kachina Dolls. The children created their own

spiritual dolls working together sharing ideas, feathers, glitter and imaginations. Joseph Bradbury's doll was a lion and it represented food and protection for the family.



(above, front row, l-r) Grace Williams, Joseph Grossi, Jennifer Kunigelis, Kaelyn Pavlik, Marcello Limone, Yadhira Rubio; (back row, l-r) Armand Benegas, Andrew Guarino, Joseph Bradbury, Melody Cadet, Roberto Fuentes, Sean Meehan, Richard Harrington.

## ST. THERESA AND THE SCHOLASTIC OLYMPICS

On October 21, 2015 there were 11 schools that participated in the Scholastic Olympics. This event is for 8th grade students and was hosted at Roselle Catholic High School.

Students compete in subject areas in Math, Religion, Science, Art, Current Events, Social Studies, English, Spelling and Forensics. St. Theresa School in Kenilworth are proud to announce two students placed in the competition. Makayla Koski placed 1st in Religion and Brian Phillips placed 2nd in Math.



(above, r-l) Makayla Koski placed 1st in Religion and Brian Phillips placed 2nd in Math.

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**When:** Friday, Nov. 13, 2015  
Doors Open at 5:30 pm  
Starts at 7:30 pm sharp

**Where:** Kenilworth Veterans Center  
33 South 21<sup>st</sup> Street  
Kenilworth, NJ

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- ★ Door Prizes
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- ★ Bring Your Own Food
- ★ Cash Bar – No outside alcohol permitted

This is a fundraiser for Harding Elementary School. The profits will be used to sponsor many programs that directly benefit the children of Harding School.  
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5 to 10 Years Old

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Poached Dijon Salmon  
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**Pasta Station**  
Choice of Pasta and Sauce  
**Carving Station**  
Prime Rib au jus, Glazed Baked Ham,  
Roasted Turkey  
**Chafers**  
Seafood Newburg, Seafood Scampi,  
Cornbread Stuffing, Meatballs,  
Chicken Murphy, Sausage and  
Peppers, Mashed Potatoes,  
Sweet Potatoes, Scallop Potatoes,  
Buttered Corn, Chicken Wings  
**Assorted Desserts**

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**Projectreadyprg@yahoo.com.**

If you are interested in participating in this class, join us for our Information and Sign up session on December 1, 2015 at 1pm (118 Division St. Elizabeth, NJ). Seats are limited –Student selection by lottery.

## KENILWORTH FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Located at 548 Boulevard • Library website is [www.kenilworthlibrary.org](http://www.kenilworthlibrary.org).  
Registration for programs may be done in person at the library or by calling 908 276-2451.  
Library is handicapped accessible. • [facebook.com/kenilworth.public.library](https://www.facebook.com/kenilworth.public.library)



(above) Celebrates National Fire Safety Week, October 4 – 10 with stories and activities during a recent Toddler Time and PJ Story Time.

## LET THE TODDLERS PLAY



(above) Toddler Time is presented on Wednesdays at 10:30am for 2 year olds. Interactive stories, songs and activities are presented each week through November 11.

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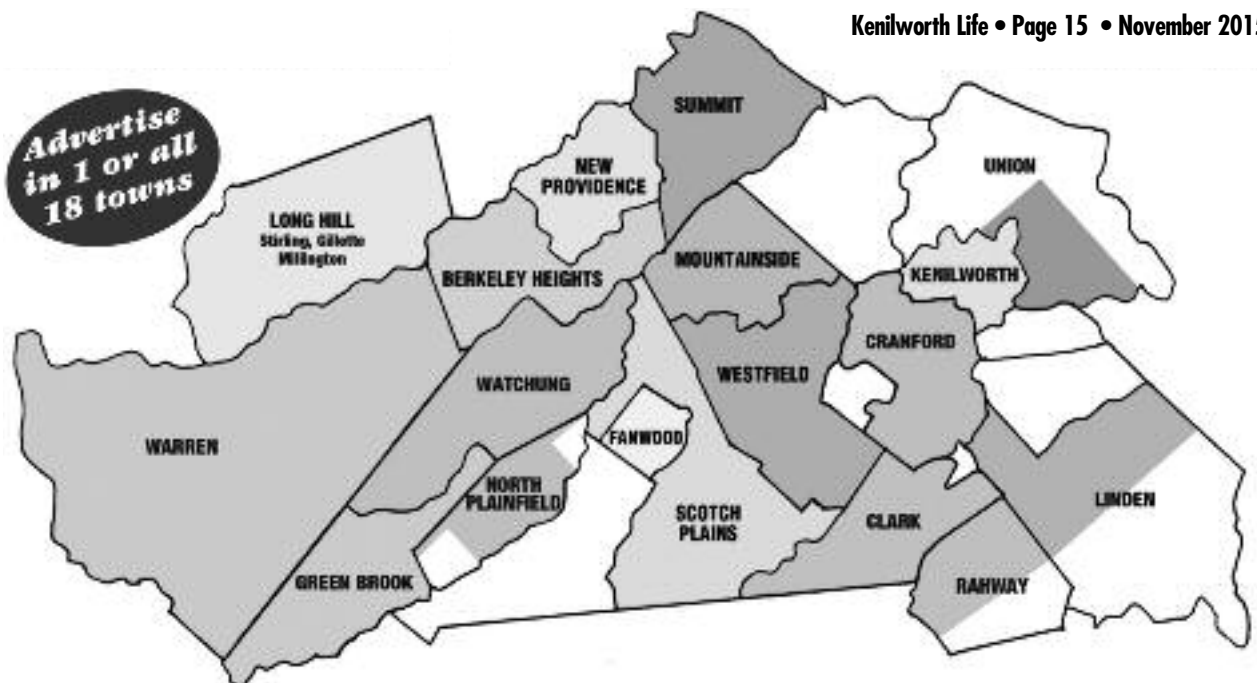
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